

DAN KNAUSS

Dan began his diving adventure in San Diego along the La Jolla Shores in 1990 when he took a YMCA Open Water Diver class offered on the naval base he was stationed at. He was hooked! Then in 1992 he completed the US Navy's 2nd Class Deep Sea Diver School on NAB Coronado Island and served six years as a U.S. Navy Deep Sea Diver. In 1996 he completed his PADI Divemaster course and became dive professional. Upon leaving the Navy in 1998 he embarked on his career as a recreational diving profession and educator. He completed the PADI Instructor Development Course in May of 1998 and immediately began teaching for a local shop in Virginia Beach, VA.



In the last 28 years, Dan has splashed in a wide variety of environments all over the world. As a Military diver he was involved salvage and ships husbandry operations, he had a brief stint with a commercial diving company, owned a small boat cleaning service business in Virginia and has worked in dive retail, dive mastered boats and taught recreational SCUBA for 20 years. He has submerged in everything from the dark, brackish waters of the Cooper River in South Carolina looking for shark's teeth to the aquarium like waters of the Red Sea. And even though those experiences are memorable, the greatest memories are those that involve the people he has been diving with. Dan says, "One of the greatest things about being a Scuba Instructor is sharing in the excitement people have as they enter the fascinating underwater realm for the first time, it never gets old or dull seeing that!"

Dan currently lives in San Diego and works and independent instructor and volunteers for the San Diego Sheriffs Dive Team. But to keep himself occupied between dives he operates a small scuba equipment repair facility, pursues public speaking as a member of Toastmasters, draws cartoons, and hangs out with his beautiful wife, Hope.

Dan is a PADI Course Director, Emergency First Responder (EFR) Instructor Trainer, Divers Alert Network (D.A.N.) Instructor, Professional Scuba/Cylinder Inspector (PSI-PCI) Instructor, and all-around good guy – depending on who you ask 😊.

Additionally, Dan has 17 years of combined youth and youth ministry experience. He has served on staff and as a volunteer Team Leader for Young Life in Ohio, Virginia, and San Diego. He has served as full and part time youth pastor for churches in Virginia Beach, VA, Chesapeake, VA, and San Diego, CA. Additionally, he has worked as a substitute teacher, coached high school wrestling, and worked with the Boy Scouts Scuba Program.

Dan has taken classes from Columbia Bible College, Taylor Bible College, earned a Master's level Certificate of Youth Ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary. 70/36

